XXXI. *An Account of an Hydro-enterocele, appearing like an Hydro-ſarcocele, and ending in the Death of the Patient, in which the Inteſtine had paſſed from the Hernial Sac, into that of the Hydrocele by which the Strangulation was formed. Communicated by Mr.* Le Cat, *F. R. S. &c. in a Letter to* Charles Morton, *Sec. R. S. Tranſlated by* J. O. Juſtamond, *Surgeon.*

Read May 28, 1767. IN the year 1751, I preſented to the Royal Society an obſervation of a rupture, which had two hernial ſacs; at preſent, I have the honour to ſend them the hiſtory of another kind of rupture with a double ſac, much more fallacious and dangerous than the former, ſince I found myſelf deceived by it, after the experience of forty years.

James Philip Chiquet, aged 65 years, of the Pariſh of St. Vivien at Rouen, was admitted into our hoſpital on the 24th of January 1767.

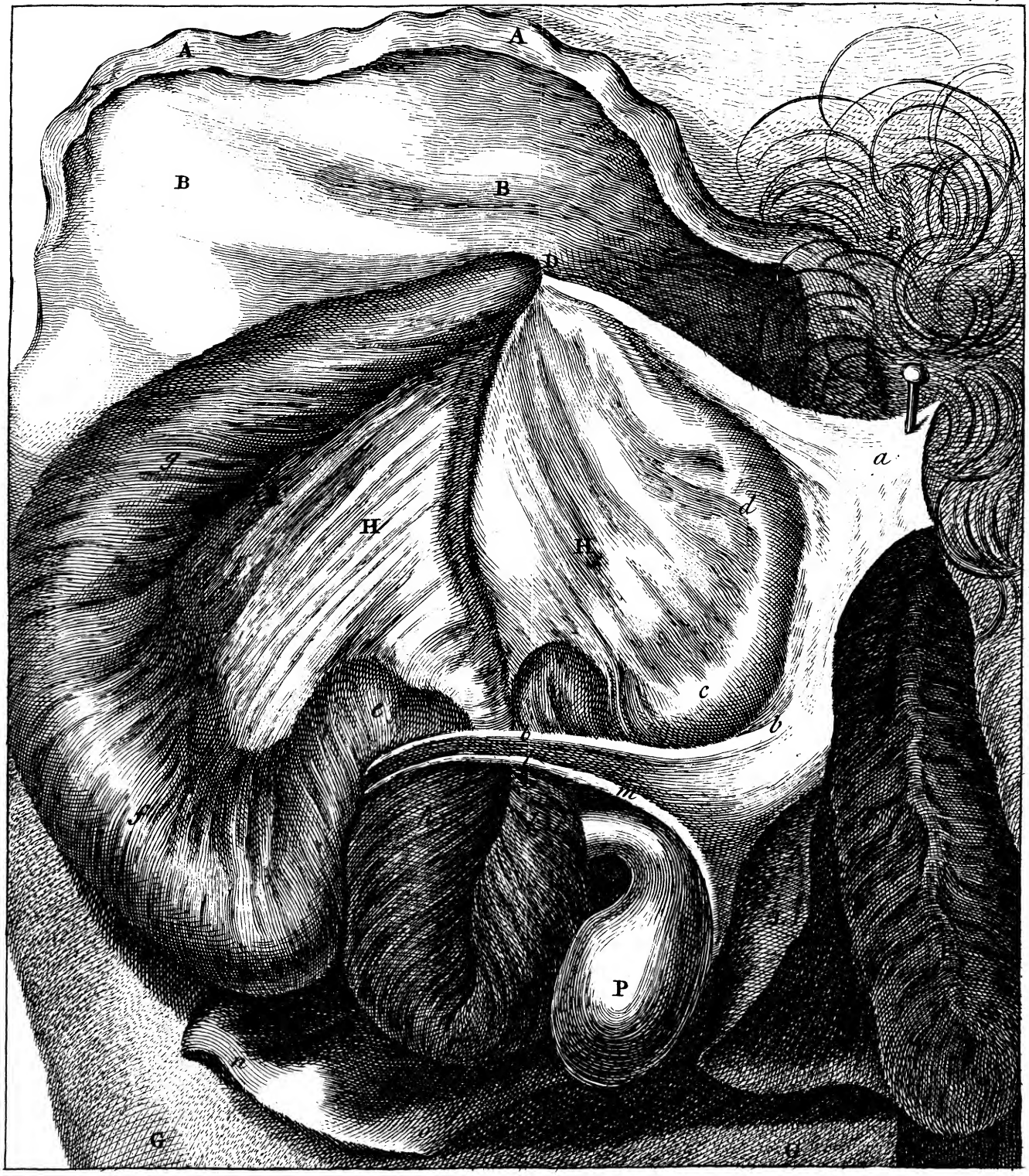
The account, which he gave of himſelf, was, that he had been accuſtomed to a rupture, which he had not been able to reduce for a fortnight paſt, and, that ſince eight days he had been ſeized with a vomiting, and was incapable of taking any nouriſhment.

ment. Upon examination, the tumor was ſoft, eſpecially at the upper part towards the ring, which ſeemed to be ſo free and diſengaged, that the finger with the integuments might be puſhed under it: the large cord, which came down to it, was flat, ſoft, and appeared to be compoſed entirely of the ſpermatic veſſels enlarged.

The extremity of the ſwelling, which was of the ſize of a large orange, was evidently a very tranſparent hydrocele; at the baſis of which ſome hard points were to be felt, which I thought to be ſchirrous tumors. I concluded, therefore, that his complaint was an old hernia, ſucceeded by a ſarcocele and an hydrocele, and that the inteſtine was at that time returned. I imagined that the vomitings, which were not frequent, might be cauſed by ſome other diſorder, perhaps by the progreſs which the ſarcocele might have made in the cavity of the abdomen; and I alſo thought that the weak and almoſt dying ſtate he appeared to be in, was a prognoſtic of the fatal manner in which thoſe caſes uſually terminate; for his ſtrength was ſo far exhauſted, that he expired in the following night.

I was very deſirous of examining the caſe, having been always induced to ſuſpect, from the vomitings, and the flatneſs, ſoftneſs, and ſize of what paſſed through the ring, that there was a deſcent of the inteſtine.

See TAB. XIII. Upon opening the common hernial ſac, *a b. b.* a large portion of inteſtine, *c. d. e. f. g.* preſented itſelf, which was very flaccid and almoſt empty; but what ſurprized me moſt, was, to find that the convoluted


A
A
B
B
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voluted extremity, *b. i. k.* of this inteſtine, had inſinuated itſelf into the ſac, *l. m. n. o.* of the hydrocele, which was formed by the vaginal coat of the teſticle, P. and, that only this portion of inteſtine, *b. i. k.* was ſtrangulated, hard, and changed in colour. The redneſs was ſo ſlight, that this ſtrangulation could ſcarcely have been the immediate cauſe of his death; but I rather imagined that an univerſal decay, and waſte of ſtrength, for a long time paſt, had contributed to haſten this event.

If the patient had lived, my deſign was, firſt, to have drawn off the water of the hydrocele by an opening made large enough to have examined into the contents of the tumor, which were but indiſtinctly felt, on account of the ſurrounding water.

According to the diſcovery I ſhould have made by this opening, I ſhould then have purſued my operation, whether I had met with a ſarcocele or a rupture. In order to put theſe intentions into execution, I had previouſly ordered the hair to be ſhaved off the tumor, and, on account of his great weakneſs, forbad bleeding, which had been ordered at firſt. This operation would probably have ſaved his life, if he had come into the hoſpital a few days ſooner, and his ſtrength had been ſufficient to carry him through it.

Explanation of Plate XIII.

A. The integuments of the abdomen raiſed. B. The external oblique muſcle. D. The ring. E. The Pubis. F. The Penis. G. The right thigh. H. The meſentery. L. Part of the dartos.

a. b. b, Part of the hernial ſac.

c. d. e. f. g. Portion of inteſtine contained in this ſac.

h. i. k. The convoluted extremity of this inteſtine contained in the ſac of the hydrocele:

l. m. n. o. The ſac of the hydrocele compoſed of the vaginal coat of the teſticle.

P, The teſticle.